

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/604,065 Confirmation No. 1064
Applicant : Masuhiro Natsuhara, et al.
Filed : June 25, 2003
T.C./A.U. : 1763
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar
Docket No. : 39.015-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying "IDS List of References" (a substitute for Form PTO/SB/08) are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

The presently submitted documents, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 through F6 as listed on the IDS List of References, are not in English. These published patent applications were cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of these Japanese-language references, an English translation of the pertinent portion of the Japanese Patent Office communication is submitted herewith. The JPO communication was in Japanese Pat. App. No. 2003-022910, the foreign patent application on the basis of which priority is claimed in the present application. (A copy of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, English abstracts of Cite Nos. F1 through F6 are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding PAJ abstract is attached to the back of each reference.

Fee Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)

A non-final rejection was issued in the present application on July 31, 2006, and as the date on which the Japanese Patent Office communication citing the presently submitted information issued was December 13, 2005, an attestation pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1) cannot be made. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2), the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) is being submitted an authorization, accompanying the EFS Web submission of this paper, to charge to a credit card the \$180 fee.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying IDS List of References and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 20, 2006

/James Judge/

James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

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